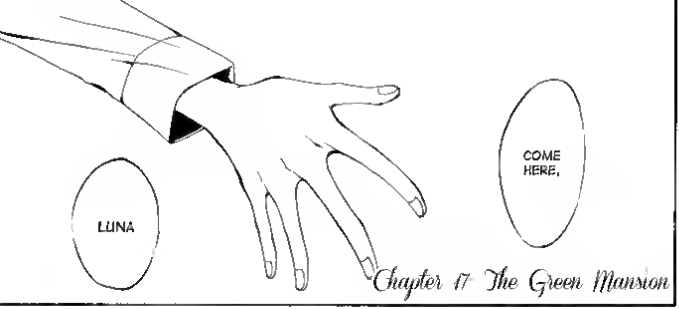
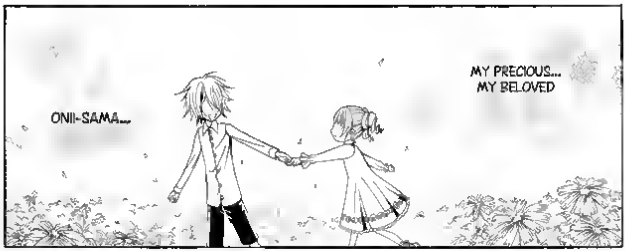
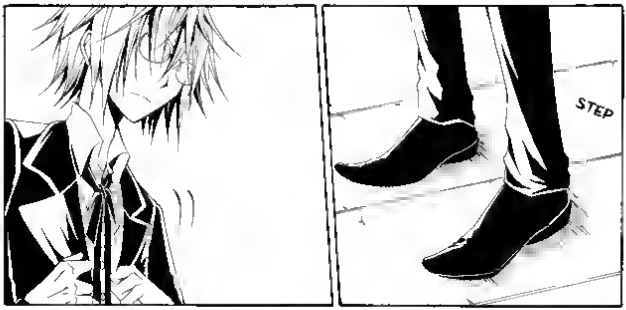
CHAPTER 17
BROUGHT TO YOU BY
Friendship Scans
Diabolic Garden
Translator: Alina
Proofreader: Yuuno
Cleaner: Cake
Typesetter: Izu
Quality checker: Nurse-Hime
FS-IRC: irc.rizon.net #FSCANS
E-MAIL: FRIENDSHIPSCANS@GMAIL.COM
CHAT ROOM: FRIENDSHIPSCANS.COM/CHAT



Chapter 17 The Green Mansion



ONII-SAMA?


STEP

CLOSE THE FIRST BUTTON!
ARGH.. TSUKASA!!
AND DON'T WEAR YOUR NECKTIE SO SLOPPY!

Hee...
...JEEZ!
EVEN THOUGH TODAY'S THE LONG-AWAITED MIAI*...
DON'T YOU THINK IT WOULD BE GOOD TO CAPTURE THE HEART OF A WOMAN ON SUCH AN OCCASION?
I'M NOT REALLY ANY GOOD WHEN IT COMES TO THIS YOU KNOW...
AND DON'T PULL THAT KIND OF ANNOYED FACE! WHERE IS YOUR SMILE?!

*MIAI: JAPANESE TRADITIONAL CUSTOM IN WHICH UNMARRIED INDIVIDUALS ARE INTRODUCED TO EACH OTHER... CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF MARRIAGE.
YOU SAY SOMETHING TOO LUNA! RIGHT?!

THE PARTNER IS THE DAUGHTER OF THE SHIROGANE HOUSEHOLD... YOU KNOW?
GOOD GRIEF WHY DO YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO SOUND SO NAUGHTY?!
PLUS, THIS MONTH'S THE PROGRAM FOR DAMPIRE'S NEW YEAR'S MEETING, SO MY MIND IS OCCUPIED ABOUT SAKI-SAMA ENOUGH AS IT IS ALREADY.
WHY SHOULD I? THIS MIAI HAS NOTHING WHATSOEVER TO DO WITH LUNA.

SHE'S THE DAUGHTER OF A REALLY PRESTIGIOUS AND INFLUENTIAL OLD FAMILY LINEAGE OF DEMON SEALERS.
PLUS, LOOK WHAT A BEAUTY SHE IS! SHE COULD MAYBE EVEN RIVAL MY OWN WIFE!
AND 20TH CENTURY'S GENERATION WAS TAUGHT BY NO ONE OTHER THAN ALEISTER CROWLEY HIMSELF, AS I'VE HEARD...
THE ANCESTOR WAS A FRIEND OF 19TH CENTURY'S DEMON SEALER ELIPHAS LEVI WHO WENT TO SCHOOL TOGETHER IN PARIS...

ERM...
Hee...
...THAT FELLA.
GRR...
I MIGHT ABLE TO GET SOME INFORMATION ON PRECIOUS DEMON WORLD PLANTS,
I GUESS I WANTED TO MEET HER ONCE BECAUSE SHE'S A FANCIER OF DEMON WORLD PLANTS
SHE'S EVEN PRETTY FAMOUS IN THE HUMAN WORLD AS WELL...
OR THERE'S A POSSIBILITY I MIGHT BE SHOWN SOME RARE PLANTS...

Epic Others Team
www.fr.mangahelpers.com
Thank you for reading

ALRIGHT, TSUKASA.
IMMA GET GOING NOW
SO WILL YOU GO AROUND BLUSHING AT HER BEAUTY?
NA. NAA!
KANON-KUN
I'LL BE LEAVING EDEN (this place) IN YOUR CARE FOR TODAY
DON'T YOU FORGET TO WATER THE PLANTS (my babies)
YEES~
IF ANYTHING SHOULD HAPPEN TO MY CUTE PLANTS.. YOU'LL TAKE RESPONSIBILITY RIGHT?
WAA!
NO MATTER WHAT MAY HAPPEN I'LL PROTECT THE PLANTS!
With my life!

I'LL BE BACK SOON.
OKAY LUNA.
I HOPE EVERY-THING GOES SMOOTHLY FOR YOU.
...HAVE A SAFE TRIP, ONII-SAMA.

SNAP
WAIT A SECOND!
LUNA SAMA, LUNA-SAMA~~
IS HE REALLY PLANNING ON ATTENDING THE MIA!?!
LOOK AT THIS PLACE. I CAUGHT 10 COCKROACHES BEHIND THE BOOKSHELVES!!
HEY...
THAT'S A FEAT ACCOMPLISHED BY YOURS TRULY!!
NOW! GIVE ME MY REWARD OF CHEESE!
ONII-SAMA GOING TO ANOTHER WOMAN'S PLACE...
LUNA HATES IT...!!
IF SHE WERE TO SEE ONII-SAMA'S WAY TOO WONDERFUL DEVILISH SMILE...
AHH BUT!!
YOU! GET A CLUE!
HUH? IS SOMETHING WRONG?
AHH! RIGHT, TODAY IS THE MIA! OF THE DEMON SEALER
SSSSHHHH!!
...NO, IT'S ALL RIGHT!
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT ONII-SAMA WHO LOOKS LIKE A STICK.
THERE'S NO WAY HE COULD CHARM EVEN A SINGLE WOMAN!
THAT'D BE TROUBLESOME...
IT MIGHT JUST AFFECT THE HEART OF THE WOMAN OF THE OPPOSITE PARTY TOO MUCH AND SHE'D NEVER LET HIM GO AGAIN!

...GESTALT.
AL-RIGHT..!
IF IT SHOULD COME TO THIS...
Ojou Your face is Scary
YES..?
.....
FRIENDSHIP

SO YOU HAVE ALREADY FINISHED LEARNING (mastered!) THE ART OF SEALING AT SUCH AN AGE?

—OH, SUPERB!

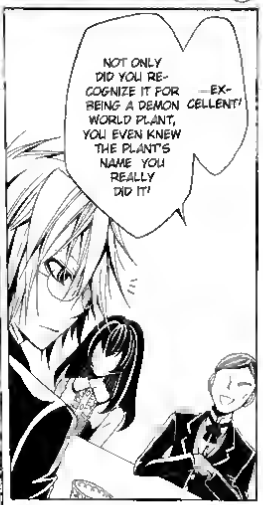
HIS NATURE IS A BIT LESS THOUGH
—FATHER

YES EVER SINCE HE STARTED BEING SELF-AWARE, HE'S BEEN LEARNING HOW TO DECODE THE BOOK DEMONS (grimoire)
HE'S BEEN DEVOTING HIMSELF TO STUDYING THE ARTS OF INCANTATION, DIVINATION, BLACK MAGIC WHITE MAGIC GANDO SORCERY AND THE TEACHINGS OF THE FIVE ELEMENTS SINCE HE WAS 10
—WELL I GUESS HE'S BEEN BLESSED FOR THE FACT HE'S TAKING AFTER ME AND INHERIT MY TALENT I SUPPOSE—

giggle
giggle

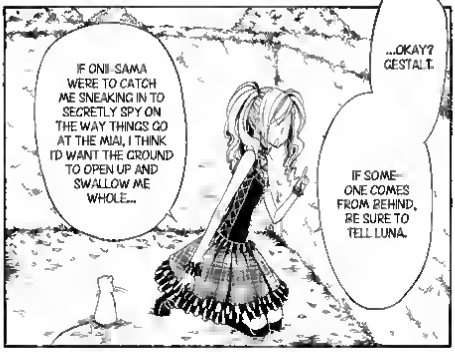
IT'S SIMILIAR TO THE ARTEMISIA* PLANT... THE BITTERNESS IS A DEAD GIVEAWAY FOR A PLANT OF IT'S FAMILY WITH A SOOTHING FLAVOR,
SO MOST LIKELY THIS IS "MEADOW-SWEET MALIK"*.
THIS BLACK TEA...! IT'S BEEN BREWED WITH LEAFS OF A DEMON WORLD PLANT, HASN'T IT?
!

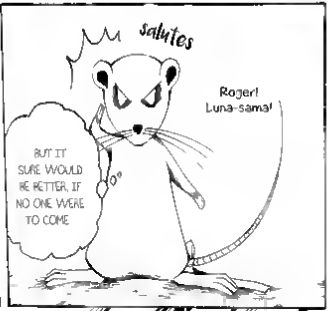
THEN—
IS IT POSSIBLE THAT ALL OF THE PLANTS BROWN IN THIS GARDEN ARE DEMON WORLD PLANTS— AM I RIGHT?
YES!
THEY'RE BEING CARED FOR BY MY DAUGHTER MICHIRU



T/N ARTEMISIA IS AN ASIAN TYPE OF MUGWORT. MALIK REFERS TO THE ARABIAN WORD FOR KING.

MICHIRU, PLEASE SHOW TSUKASA-KUN AROUND.
YES.
OH, ...SO THAT'S HOW IT IS!
I'M SORRY IF MY ASKING TROUBLES YOU, BUT WOULD YOU TWO LIKE TO TAKE A TROLL TROUGH THE GARDEN TOGETHER?
WOOSH
THE SHIRO CANE HOUSE-HOLD...
...SO IT'S HERE, HUH?


IF ONII-SAMA WERE TO CATCH ME SNEAKING IN TO SECRETLY SPY ON THE WAY THINGS GO AT THE MAI, I THINK I'D WANT THE GROUND TO OPEN UP AND SWALLOW ME WHOLE...
...OKAY? GESTALT.
IF SOMEONE COMES FROM BEHIND, BE SURE TO TELL LUNA.



IF...
IF HE FALLS FOR THAT WOMAN HE'S MEETING TODAY,

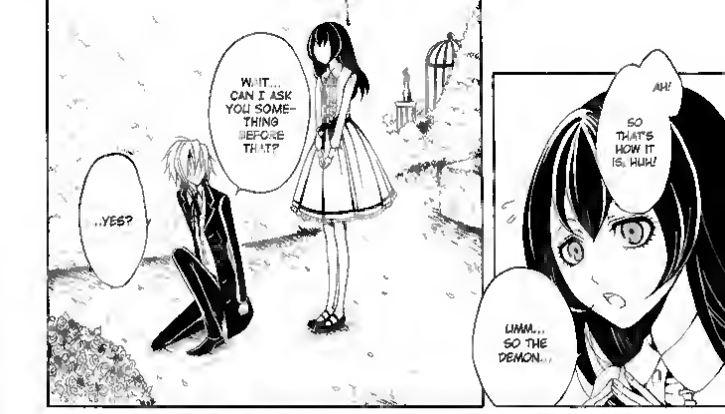
I ABSOLUTELY WON'T EVER FORGIVE HIM!

AH LUNA... YOU'RE DEFINITELY IN TROUBLE.
YES- BUT I DO SO LOVE THEM BOTH...♡
MY NUMBER ONE IS DEFINITELY ONII-SAMA!
...NO ANY-WAYS!
RECENTLY I'VE BEEN GETTING THESE FRIVOLOUS THOUGHTS ABOUT SAKI-SAMA...
...GAH... LUNA, GET A GRIP...
blush
!
AH...

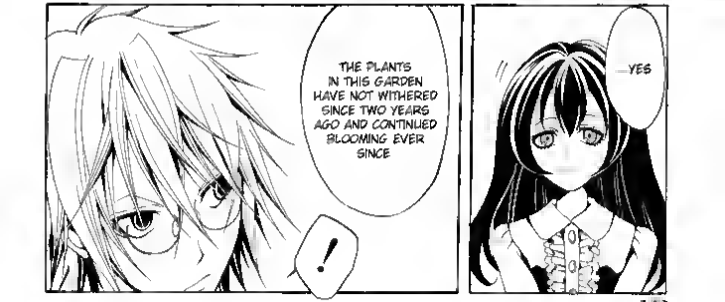
Plesse wait

...ALRIGHT!
FROM NOW ON, I'LL BE ABLE TO SEE HOW THINGS ARE GOING...!
Geez Luna, you've picked up a bad hobby again

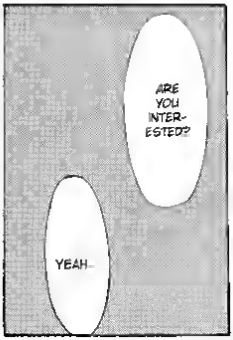
WOULD YOU PLEASE HEAR ME OUT?
IF IT'S ALRIGHT WITH YOU, THIS IS ACTUALLY ABOUT A DEMON SEALER'S WORK...
SO WITH A BIG PLANT YOU CAN ELIMINATE DEMONS, RIGHT?
AN ELIMINATED DEMON DOESN'T LEAVE A CORPSE BEHIND
IF IT'S A PLANT THAT CAN INSTANTLY TEAR A DEMON APART
THERE'S NO WAY YOU COULD SPECIFICALLY CULTIVATE SUCH A THING RIGHT ?
THE ELIMINATED DEMON REMAINS AS A BODY...? HOW SCARY
ONLY THE SOUL AND ASHES REMAIN


WAIT... CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING BEFORE THAT?
..YES?
AH!
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS, HUH!
UMM... SO THE DEMON...

THERE'S ALCHEMILLA MOLIS THAT NORMALLY BLOOMS AROUND EARLY SUMME.. AND LUCIFER HOLLY THAT OPENS ITS BLOSSOMS AROUND DECEMBER...
I THINK I CAN SPOT ALL KINDS OF PLANTS THAT ARE COMPLETELY OUT OF SEASON BLOOMING IN THIS GARDEN
BUT HOW WOULD THAT BE POSSIBLE?


THE PLANTS IN THIS GARDEN HAVE NOT WITHERED SINCE TWO YEARS AGO AND CONTINUED BLOOMING EVER SINCE
!
YES

SEVERAL YEARS AGO, I DID SOME RESEARCH ON RAISING MY OWN PLANTS.
ABOUT ALCHEMY'S ULTIMATE GOAL TO WIELD THE POWER OVER TURNING THINGS DEAD' AND 'UNDEAD/ IMMORTAL' AND THE INFLUENCE OF ASTROLOGY OVER THE BLOOMING PERIOD OF PLANTS...
I SEE
IF ONE HAS TO PUT THIS INTO PRACTICAL USE WOULDN'T THAT MEAN THE PLANTS WOULDN'T WILT FOR ALL OF ETERNITY. THUS CREATING EVERLASTING BEAUTIFUL PLANTS
FRIENDSHIP


ARE YOU INTER-ESTED?
YEAH...

SO YOU WERE THE ONE TO SUCCESSFULLY CULTIVATE THOSE 'NEVER WITHERED PLANTS', HUH?
AH, UMM...
IT'S STILL IN THE RE-SEARCH PHASE, SO I CAN'T BE TOO CERTAIN ABOUT IT BEING A SUCCESS, HOWEVER...

THERE'S NO WAY I WOULDN'T BE INTERESTED IN THE INFLUENCE OF ALCHEMY AND ASTROLOGY PLAY UPON PLANTS.
YOU KNOW...
I AM ALSO DOING RESEARCH ON PECULIAR CUL-TIVATING AND FOSTERING METHODS.

I'M SO GLAD
REALLY?

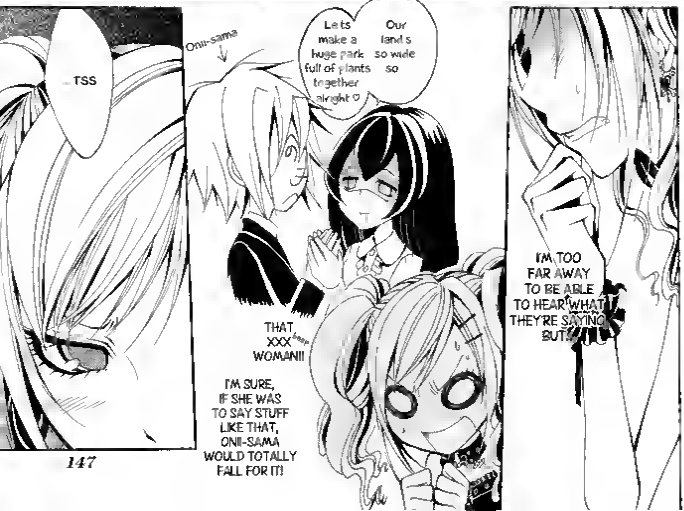
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
Touches softly

IF IT'S YOU,

MY ALRAUNE MIGHT JUST BE ABLE TO BLOOM.

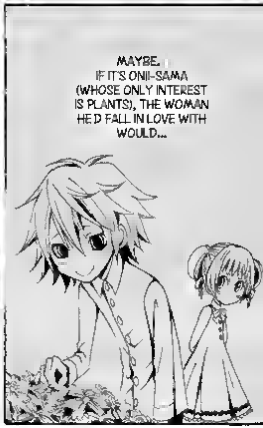
.....

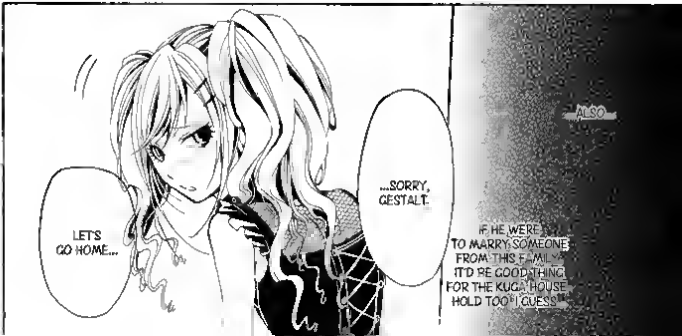
HEY...
SHE'S TOUCHING IT-!?
ONII-SAMA'S HAND...
O...
O...


TSS
Onii-sama
Let's make a huge park full of plants together alright?
Our land's so wide so
THAT XXX WOMAN!!
I'M SURE, IF SHE WAS TO SAY STUFF LIKE THAT, ONII-SAMA WOULD TOTALLY FALL FOR IT!
I'M TOO FAR AWAY TO BE ABLE TO HEAR WHAT THEY'RE SAYING BUT...

NO...
THAT MIGHT BE THE CASE BUT... EVEN THEN...
LUNA DOESN'T REALLY HAVE THE RIGHT TO INTERFERE...

FOR SURE BE A PERSON WHO LOVES PLANTS TO THE SAME DEGREE AS ONII-SAMA...


MAYBE, IF IT'S ONII-SAMA (WHOSE ONLY INTEREST IS PLANTS), THE WOMAN HE'D FALL IN LOVE WITH WOULD...

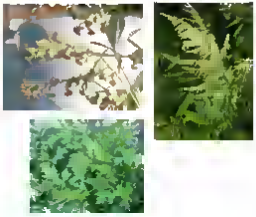

LET'S GO HOME...
...SORRY, GESTALT.
...ALSO...
IF HE WERE EVER TO MARRY SOMEONE FROM THIS FAMILY, IT'D BE GOOD THING FOR THE KUGA HOUSE HOLD TOO, I GUESS.

APPEAR
...HUH?
THAT KID...!
WHERE THE HECK DID HE RUN OFF TO—?
.....
AH!!
THRUSTS FORWARD

WHO...
HOLD YOUR TONGUE.
I'LL SEVER YOUR HEAD.
INTRUDER

IT'S SIMILAR TO THE ARTEMISIA PLANT. THE BITTERNESS IS A GREAT GIVEAWAY FOR A PLANT OF IT FAMILY WITH A SOOTHING FLAVOR.
SO MOST LIKELY THIS IS "MEADOW SWEET MALIK"
THIS BLACK TEA... IT'S MADE FROM MILK WITH LEAPS OF A DEMON WORLD PLANT, HASN'T IT?

♡TN: "Artemisia" is an Asian type of mugwort. "malik" refers to the Arabian word for "king" (Yugioh-fans would recognize this :D)



Translator Note

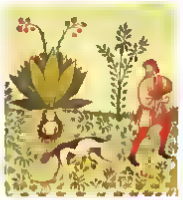
♡TN: Alchemilla mollis/ Lady's mantle looks like this

♡TN: Alraune is the German word for a mandrake, which is a plant that has been known in mythology and medicine since ancient times due to its poisonous effects. There's a whole story about it by the brothers Grimm.

"Grimm's Saga No. 84 Der Alraun / The Mandrake"

The saga tells of congenital thieves to whom stealing comes naturally. This happens when a man has descended from a long line of thieves or when a person has become a thief because his mother stole while she was pregnant. In this instance he has at least an overwhelming desire to steal (according to others, when an innocent man confesses to thievery under torture) and he is a pure youth but is hanged for the crime and waters the ground with his seed (aut sperme in terram effundit), then the mandrake plant or Gallow's Man grows at that spot. The top of the plant has broad leaves and yellow flowers. When this same plant is dug up there is great danger, for when the plant is pulled out it sighs, howls and screams in such a frightful manner that the person who has dug it up soon dies. In order to acquire the plant, the man must approach the plant on a Friday before sunup. After plugging his ears with cotton, wax or pitch, he goes out with a black dog, which must not have spots of any other color on his body. The man makes the sign of the cross three times over the mandrake and carefully digs up a circle around the plant so only a few fibers of the root remain in the earth. Then he must tie it with a string to the dog's tail, show the dog a piece of bread and run away quickly. The dog, desiring the bread, takes off quickly and pulls out the root but the dog promptly drops over dead when he hears the groaning scream emanating from the plant. The man must now pick up the plant, wash it until clean with red wine and wrap it in white and red silk cloth, place it in a small chest, wash it every Friday and give it a new white shirt every new moon. If you ask the mandrake a question, it will respond and reveal your future. It will tell you about concealed things regarding your future welfare and prosperity. From that time forth the owner has no enemies, can never become poor and if he has no children his marriage will soon be blessed. If you place a coin next to the mandrake at night, the next morning you will find twice as much. If you want to enjoy the services of the mandrake plant for a long time and make sure that it does not die, never overlay it. You can easily place a half-taler coin next to it every night, but maximum a ducat. But don't do this always only very rarely.

When the owner of the Gallow's Man dies, his youngest son inherits the plant. But he must place a piece of bread and a coin in the coffin and bury these things with his father. If the heir dies before the father, then the oldest son inherits the alraun, but the youngest son must also be buried with bread and money."



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